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*Die vor- und frühgeschichtlichen Altertümer Thüringens.* Herausgegeben von Prof. Dr A. GÖTZE, Prof. Dr P. HÖFER, San.-Rat Dr P. ZSCHIESCHE. Mit 24 Lichtdrucktafeln und einer archäologischen Karte. Würzburg : Curt Kabitzsch (A. Stubers Verlag), 1909.

As the title suggests, the authors have attempted a piece of intensive archeological work, the kind that will eventually become the warp and weft of the science of prehistoric archeology. Limiting the field of study insures a better focus and more complete revelation of all the facts. The geographical area chosen in this instance is that bounded by the Harz mountains on the north, the Saale and the Werra on the east and west respectively, and southerly by the Thüringerwald. A distinctive and valuable feature of the work is a large archeological map (scale 1 : 100,000) the preparation of which took fourteen years. Each period, from the stone age to the Slavic period, is represented on the map by a distinctive color. By adopting a series of symbols printed in these colors the authors were enabled to plot not only the localities but also to indicate the age and general character of each find. The system is for the greater part that recommended by the International Congress at Stockholm in 1874.

The oldest traces of man's presence in Thüringen are found in the lower travertine deposits of the Ilm valley between Taubach and Weimar, and date from the Riss-Würm interglacial epoch. They consist of small flint chips and flakes with retouched margins. Although of paleolithic age they resemble eoliths (archeoliths of Verworn) more than they do the typical Mousterian industry of which they form a part. No objects were found that could have served primarily as ornaments, also neither pottery nor anything that would point to a knowledge of agriculture, domestication of animals, or fishing. Human remains belonging to this epoch are rare indeed — two teeth from Taubach and a piece of a skull from Ehringsdorf. The physical characters of the race, however, are well known from finds in other parts of Europe.

The upper layers of the Taubach-Weimar travertine also contain artifacts, one of which, found at Ehringsdorf, may be classed as Aurignacian. The late paleolithic is represented by the upper deposits in the Einhornhöhle and by the find at Krölpa.

As regards the early neolithic, nothing has been found in Thüringen that corresponds to the French Campignian or to its equivalent, the early Danish shell-heaps. Like Athena who sprang full-grown from the head of Zeus, neolithic culture in Thüringen appears suddenly in its advanced stages of development, a phenomenon not yet explained. Judging from the number of settlements and the variety of artifacts, the culture of the

region reached a high degree of development. Schistous materials that easily admit of polishing and perforation although relatively hard and tough, were used almost exclusively in the manufacture of stone implements. Flint was employed sparingly, being confined chiefly to arrow-points, knives, and small scrapers.

To the food supply contributed not only forest and stream, but also agriculture and domesticated animals, and yet evidence has been gathered that points to the practice of cannibalism. Skins as well as woven fabrics were used for clothing. That the people were ornament-loving is proved by the prevalence of articles of adornment. The principal weapons were the stone hatchet and hammer or club, and the bow and arrow.

The principal mode of burial was the interment of the body on its side with arms and legs sharply flexed (*liegender Hocker*). Indian neolithic burials of the same type have been found in southern Connecticut at Shelton. In some cases the body occupies a sitting posture (*sitzender Hocker*), and in others the skeleton is extended its full length. Only slight traces of cremation exist.

The length of the neolithic period in Thüringen cannot yet be measured. The authors are sure, however, that it was a long one. The culture is composed of a number of elements, some of which are indigenous. Of those that were intrusive, some were modified by their new environment, others were not. These three factors are best expressed in the terms of plastic art — the first by the so-called Schnurkeramik and the Rössener type; the second by the Bernburg type, the round-bodied amphoræ, the cups with zonal decoration, and Bandkeramik; and the third by the northwest German megalithic pottery.

*Schnurkeramik*. — As in other lands ceramics played the principal role in the art development of neolithic Thüringen. The leading forms are amphoræ with flat bottom, cylindrical or short neck, and handles attached to the zone of greatest horizontal diameter. The ornament, so-called Schnurornament, covers neck and upper half of the body. Another type is the cup with slightly differentiated neck, the latter alone being decorated. The variety of the grave forms (both Hügel- and Flachgräber, each with or without stone cists) and the richness of their contents point to a long duration of the period that is characterized by the *Schnurkeramik*. The Rössener pottery belongs to a mixed type and is found exclusively in flat graves that are not provided with stone cists.

The Bernburg type is composed chiefly of large cups with broad, low-set handles and decorated with spine-shaped prominences. It is associated with both flat and mound graves in part provided with stone cists;

also with communal graves. This type reached its greatest development in northern Thüringen. The round-bodied amphoræ are the representatives of a culture that originated in northern Germany where it usually accompanies the Bernburg variety. The *Bandkeramik* type is represented by round-bottomed bowls, the ornamentation being executed in such a manner as to resemble bands. They occur in flat graves without stone cists. Cups with zonal ornamentation are found over the greater part of central Europe.

Thus far pottery characteristic of the megaliths of northwestern Germany has been found at only two places in Thüringen. All these various classes of pottery are distinct not only in themselves but in their associations.

The substitution of metal for stone was made so gradually that life conditions suffered little change thereby. Copper and bronze appeared long before the close of the neolithic, and stone artifacts continued in use until late in the bronze age. Thüringen furnishes no evidence that would support the theory of a transition epoch of copper between the stone age and the bronze age. There is as yet no proof that the ore was mined in either the Harz mountains or the Thüringerwald. Bronze, therefore, was imported either as metal ready for casting or in the form of the manufactured articles themselves. Thüringen, on the other hand, was rich in salt, and through this commodity maintained her balance of trade.

Something of the character of the dwellings can be learned from certain burial mounds that have preserved remains of wooden structures presumably resembling the houses of the well-to-do. In some cases the ground-plan was rectangular; in others round. A single house urn found at Polleben is no doubt a model of the prevalent type of dwelling. The first epoch of bronze is characterized by interment of the dead; the second epoch and the first epoch of the iron age, by cremation.

The distinguishing features of the various phases of the bronze age and Hallstatt cultures are carefully portrayed and compared with those of neighboring areas. The beginning of the bronze age is placed at 2000 B. C. and the close of the Hallstatt epoch at 500 B. C.

The beginning of the La Tène period witnessed the general use of iron both as weapons and tools; the appearance of the glass industry, of coinage, and of wheel-made pottery, and the development of a new style of art. A study of the fibulæ renders it possible to divide the period into three distinct epochs.

The Roman period and the period of migrations (*Völkerwanderungs-*

*zeit*) covered the first five centuries of our era and are treated by the authors as a unit. The first two hundred years of the Roman period witnessed but little change in the local La Tène culture. By the third century there was at least indirect communication with the highly developed culture of southern Russia.

The art of the following Merovingian period (500–800 A. D.) was marked by a certain richness and splendor hitherto unknown. The making over of the Thüringian monarchy into a Frankish province in 531 A. D. was followed by important cultural changes such as the introduction of Merovingian ornaments and weapons as well as of the Frankish mode of burial. The Slavic invasion began in the sixth century and its influence was felt till about 1000 A. D.

The greater part of the volume is devoted to an inventory of the finds which may be considered as the text to the valuable archeological map. While the arrangement is geographical, the period to which each find belongs is also indicated. The forty pages of bibliography, index of places, and the 379 high-grade illustrations complete a work of prime importance in the development of the archeology of the Fatherland.

GEORGE GRANT MACCURDY.

*Mental and Moral Heredity in Royalty. A Statistical Study of History and Sociology.* By FREDERICK ADAMS WOODS, M.D. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1906. 12°, viii, 312 pp., ill.

In this work Dr Woods has attempted to apply modern scientific methods to the study of history. One needs to study the whole book carefully to appreciate the importance of the results which have come from this study. The book is a remarkable one and deserves the attention of both biologists and sociologists.

The original records from which history is written are largely *ex parte* statements whose views were colored by personal interest, often by imperfect knowledge, and frequently by strong prejudices. To get at the truth may perhaps be impossible in many cases, but the application of scientific methods of weighing evidence can be made to reveal the most probable interpretation of the data. While Dr Woods has not attempted in this volume extensive interpretation of historical data on the basis of the studies made, he seems to have demonstrated that the heredity of those who have had most influence in shaping the course of human events is a factor which the historian can not overlook without great loss. He has studied the relative influence of heredity and environment on the mental and moral traits of royalty. This class was selected for two reasons: first, because of the